



Sr. Cheryl Clemons, OSU, Ph.D., grew up on a farm in central Kentucky and became an Ursuline Sister of Mount Saint Joseph. After graduation from Brescia College, she taught in several high schools in Kentucky and Nebraska, during which time she earned an M.A. in Theological Studies from the University of Dayton and gradually discovered a passion for social justice and adult education. She then served four and a half years as co-director/director of the Diocese of Owensboro Office of Social Concerns, where in addition to her work on numerous justice issues she continued volunteer work in adult faith formation. After earning a doctorate from the Catholic University of America in Historical Theology (with a concentration in Systematics and minors in Medieval Church History and Feminist Theology), she became an associate professor of theology at Brescia University in Owensboro, KY. For many years she was also an adjunct theology instructor in the University of Dayton's summer Master's program and a regular instructor in the Hesburgh Sabbatical Program at the Chicago Theological Union, always delighting in sharing the practical spiritual relevance of faith's beliefs and practices. She has twice served her religious congregation in leadership positions, most recently as a full-time Assistant Congregational Leader from 2004-2010. After completing her term, she returned to Brescia, this time as Vice President for Academic Affairs/Academic Dean, a position she held until 2020.

With a personal spirituality long and deeply rooted in Scripture and a passion for connecting spirituality, theology, and faith to "real life," Sr. Cheryl has been leading women's retreat weekends for over 25 years, focusing on biblical women, women mystics, and lay women. She has continued to be involved in parish RCIA programs, sharing especially on the Bible, Mass and the Eucharist, Mary and the Saints, and the Trinity. She's also led parish missions, 40-Hours' Devotions, and parish retreat days/evenings. She's been involved in 12-Step movements for over 25 years. More recently she has become involved in longer retreat programs and in offering spiritual direction. She is currently in the West Virginia Institute for Spirituality's Associate Spiritual Direction Training Program and hopes to receive her certification in December 2020.

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